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Appl. No. 09/856,768 Amendment/Response Reply to non-FINAL Office action of 9 April 2003

## Listing of Claims:

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously amended) An electric lamp comprising a glass lamp vessel which is closed in a gastight manner and in which an electric element is accommodated,

current conductors connected to the electric element which each have an end portion of molybdenum projecting to outside the lamp vessel, said end portion being provided with means for protection against oxidation,

characterized in that the end portion has a skin which is chosen from a group of materials formed by titanium nitride and chromium carbide.

2. (original) An electric lamp as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the skin has a layer thickness of at least 2  $\mu m$  and at most 3  $\mu m$ .